

lies with an income below the poverty line, only such families with an income level below the cut off income level are considered for assistance.

(d) and (e). Since the NSSO consumption survey are conducted every 5 years and the results of the same are used for five year plans, the poverty line and cut off line of assistance are revised with a time gap. For example during the Seventh Plan (1985-90), the results of the 38th round of NSSO survey were used to determine both the poverty line and the inter-state allocations. It is proposed that during the Eighth Plan, the results of 43rd round of NSSO survey will be used to determine the revised poverty line as also inter-state allocations under IRDP.

News-Item Captioned 'Delhi Parks - Picture of Neglect'

2079. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:
Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news captioned 'Delhi Parks - a picture of neglect' appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated November 2, 1991 wherein it has been stated that barring a few parks, small and big parks wear a picture of utter neglect and the size of the parks has been shrinking due to the encroachments with the connivance of the MCD, NDMC and CPWD Officials;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the measures/steps taken to improve the condition of the parks and to remove all encroachments from the parks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). The MCD, NDMC and CPWD authorities have

confirmed that all the parks, big and small, are maintained properly within the resources available. Necessary instructions exists to remove encroachments on these parks and as such, there is no shrinkage in the size of these parks. In so far as the Shalimar Bagh is concerned, this is maintained as District Park by the DDA and has been developed around Sheesh Mahal monument, which is maintained by the Archaeological Department. The small scale industry units, mentioned in the news-item, are outside the park developed by the DDA.

Some of the steps taken by concerned authorities within the constraints of resources to improve the condition of the parks are - the erection of boundary walls, deployment of watch and ward, malies and other staff, adequate number of tubewells/adequate supply of water for watering the plants, growing of seasonal flowers, flowering shrubs and trees top dressing with Okhia sludge and gooderth, use of fertilizers and involvement of residents, etc.

Transport and Storage Facilities for Fruit and Vegetable Traders

2080. SHRI KAMLA MISHRA
MADHUKAR:
SHRI LOKANATH CH-
OUDHURY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether an estimated 40 percent of Indian annual production of fruits and vegetables rots before it gets to the market because of a poor transport and storage facilities; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) A report

of the Group on perishable agricultural commodities has estimated in May, 1981 that about 25-40 percent fruits are lost.

(b) The National Horticulture Board (NHB), the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) and Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) have taken several measures as follows in order to reduce post harvest losses:-

- 1) NHB has started implementation of programmes for strengthening the basic post harvest infrastructure which include setting up pre-cooling units to increase shelf life, improvement in packaging, small cold storages in producing areas and supply of maturity kits for judging right stage of harvesting.
- 2) NCDC is providing financial assistance to producers and marketing Cooperatives for purchase of transport Vehicles, construction of large integrated godowns, grading and packing sheds, establishment of processing units and large cold storages. The cooperatives are also being assisted with loans/equity and margin money in order to increase their marketing operations.
- 3) MFPI have various Plan Schemes for setting up fruit and vegetable processing industries. These include infrastructural and common facilities for food processing industries in

rural areas and development of cold storage facilities at major airports, railway stations and production centres.

Bhopal Gas Tragedy

2081. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the follow up action taken on the directions contained in the judgement of the Supreme Court of India dated October 3, 1991 on the Bhopal Gas Tragedy;

(b) whether Government propose to reopen the criminal proceedings against the Union Carbide Corporation in view of the quashing of the orders dated 14/15 February, 1989 granting criminal immunity to them; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c). Action taken on the directions contained in the Judgement dt. 3.10.1991 of the Supreme Court on the Bhopal Gas Tragedy are as follows:-

- i) The criminal case which was not closed but in which the hearings were adjourned is being proceeded with in the appropriate Court.
- ii) The Court has issued directions for providing compensation to future victims and investment of the compensation amount for minors, illiterates and semi-literates. The matter has been taken up with